

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## **Summary of Klamath Project November 2012 Operations**

The elevation of Upper Klamath Lake (UKL) increased from 4137.83 feet on October 31<sup>st</sup> to 4138.48 feet on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The November 30, 2012 UKL elevation is 1.25 feet lower than the elevation at the end of November 2011 (4139.73). Total net inflows to UKL for November were 86.86 Thousand Acre Feet (TAF), which is 76% of the Natural Resource Conservation Service average of 113.97 TAF for the month.

Releases from Link River Dam averaged 738 cfs during the month. The average Iron Gate flow for November was 1,107 cfs. Consistent with the Variable Base Flow Procedure (VBF), no specific VBF releases were made downstream of Iron Gate Dam during October since the UKL elevation did not exceed the threshold of 4141.7 feet during the month.

However, two releases totaling about 13.5 TAF were made from Iron Gate Dam towards the end of November. These pulse flow events, designed to mimic natural flow events, were triggered by flow variability guidelines based on storm systems moving into the area and projected increases in river flows.

Reclamation is dedicated to managing, developing, and protecting water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Reclamation, and Klamath Project stakeholders are working together to manage available water to provide benefits to basin irrigators while protecting Endangered Species Act-listed fish.